

Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CAB-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

DOT-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 RSC-01 FAA-00 L-02 /035 W

----- 030472

R 241505Z DEC 74

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6843

UNCLAS LONDON 16765

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAIR, UK

SUBJ: CIVAIR - LAKER SKYTRAIN LICENSE CHALLENGED BY
BRITISH AIRWAYS

1. TAKING ADVANTAGE OF A LAKER AIRWAYS' APPLICATION TO CIVIL AVIATION AUTHORITY FOR AN INCREASE IN SKYTRAIN FARES, BRITISH AIRWAYS HAS FILED FORMAL MOTION WITH CAA CALLING FOR REVOCATION OF LAKER'S SKYTRAIN LICENSE. IN ITS STATEMENT, BA SAID SKYTRAIN OPERATION IN CURRENTLY TROUBLED NORTH ATLANTIC MARKET WOULD MEAN "DUMPING" OF UNWANTED SLOTS ON ROUTE AND IT ARGUED THAT "ONLY ONE BRITISH AIRLINE SHOULD BE LICENSED ON THE NORTH ATLANTIC ROUTES AND THE COUNTRY SHOULD GIVE BRITISH AIRWAYS ALL POSSIBLE HELP AND ENCOURAGEMENT TO MEET THE FIERCE FOREIGN COMPETITION."
2. CAA OFFICIAL (BONNEY) TOLD US THAT AS RESULT BA ACTION CAA WILL HAVE TO HOLD PUBLIC HEARING ON SKYTRAIN LICENSE. BONNEY SAID HEARING WILL BE HELD BEFORE END OF JANUARY AND HE EXPECTS DECISION BEFORE MID-FEBRUARY UNLESS ISSUE GETS CAUGHT UP IN LABOR GOVERNMENT'S AIR TRANSPORT POLICY REVIEW WHICH IS NOW UNDERWAY AND WHICH SHOULD BE COMPLETED BY END OF FEBRUARY.
3. LAKER, THE ETERNAL OPTIMIST, SAYS HE WELCOMES BRITISH AIRWAYS ACTION BECAUSE HE IS CONFIDENT IT WILL RESULT IN RECONFIRMATION OF HIS LICENSE AND WHEN THAT HAPPENS HE

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SAYS "THIS (UK) GOVERNMENT AND THE US GOVERNMENT WHO HAVE

SAT ON THE (SKYTRAIN) MATTER FOR TWO YEARS DOING NOTHING..
WILL BOTH HAVE TO DO SOMETHING ABOUT IT. I AM FULLY
CONFIDENT OF BEING ABLE TO START SKYTRAIN IN APRIL".

SPIERS

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CIVIL AVIATION, LICENSES, AIR FARES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 24 DEC 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974LONDON16765
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740374-0379
From: LONDON
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19741213/aaaaakgt.tel
Line Count: 66
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EB
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: MorefiRH
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 23 SEP 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <23 SEP 2002 by ReddocGW>; APPROVED <02 JAN 2003 by MorefiRH>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CIVAIR - LAKER SKYTRAIN LICENSE CHALLENGED BY BRITISH AIRWAYS
TAGS: EAIR, UK
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005